

U.S. House and Senate Notification
Monday, December 7, 2009

To: Congressional Health Staff

From: Amy Hall
Director, Office of Legislation
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Subject: CMS Releases Guidance on 2010 Resource and Cost-Sharing Limits for Low-Income Subsidy

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has released guidance on the updated resource limits for individuals who apply and qualify for the Part D low-income subsidy (LIS), and the maximum co-payments that LIS eligible beneficiaries, including full-benefit dual eligible and partial dual eligible individuals, will pay as enrollees of Medicare prescription drug plans in 2010. The 2010 resource limits are \$8,100 (\$12,910 if married) for the full low-income subsidy and \$12,510 (\$25,010 if married) for other low-income subsidies. The guidance also provides the methodology that CMS used to update the resource limits as well as the cost-sharing amounts. The guidance can be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/HPMSGH/list.asp>

By statute, CMS is required to update the Part D resource limits, income standards, and cost-sharing amounts for the low-income subsidies each year. CMS will release the 2010 income standards for the low-income subsidies early next year after the release of the 2010 Federal poverty level (FPL) guidelines.

If you have any questions about this guidance, please contact the CMS Office of Legislation. Thank you.